

## WHAT IS YARD WASTE?

Common forms of yard waste include:

- ◆ Grass Clippings
- ◆ Leaves
- ◆ Branches
- ◆ Weeds
- ◆ Pet Waste



Learn More!

Visit the following City resources:

[www.coloradosprings.gov/thinkoutsidethelawn?mlid=6336](http://www.coloradosprings.gov/thinkoutsidethelawn?mlid=6336)

<https://coloradosprings.gov/waterresources>

## WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

- ◆ Leave your grass clippings on your lawn. This can add valuable nutrients.
- ◆ Compost on your property. A compost bin can receive both yard waste and food waste.
- ◆ Mulch your garden with grass clippings and leaves.
- ◆ Dispose of pet waste in the garbage, do not compost pet waste.
- ◆ Take yard waste to a local recycling facility.
- ◆ Contact your waste service provider to see what materials they accept.
- ◆ Use phosphorous-free fertilizer to prevent algae growth in our waterways.



## WHY SHOULD I CARE?



- ◆ Improper disposal of yard waste can clog storm drains and lead to flooding.
- ◆ Dumping yard waste in a drainage channel can change the drainage path and lead to flooding.
- ◆ Dry, brittle yard waste that is dumped along our drainage ways can pose a fire hazard.
- ◆ Yard waste with high levels of nitrogen and phosphorous fertilizers can contribute to eutrophication—reducing available oxygen in the waterbody and affecting aquatic life.
- ◆ Illegal dumping is against the law and you could be fined.

## STORMWATER NEEDS YOU... MORE WAYS TO HELP:

There are many ways to help protect the water in our community as well as for those downstream. Here are a few tips to keep in mind:

- ◆ Prevent pollution, remember: *Only Rain Down the Drain!*
- ◆ Monitor your curb/catch basin or ditch by removing sand, grass clippings, debris and litter
- ◆ Pick up after your pet



- ◆ Use the right amount of fertilizer at the right time (not before a rain storm!)
- ◆ Wash your car at a commercial carwash or on the lawn with environmentally-friendly soap, not on a hard surface
- ◆ Dispose of hazardous materials properly
- ◆ Maintain your vehicles to prevent leaks
- ◆ Sweep grass clippings back onto the lawn, or compost them
- ◆ Put trash, including cigarette butts, in its place...not in a creek or storm drain.

## RESOURCES

Call first for a list of accepted materials, business hours, and fees.

- ◆ **Rocky Top Resources**  
1755 E. Las Vegas St.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
719-579-9103
- ◆ **Rocky Mountain Disposal**  
1330 S Royer St.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
719-492-2050
- ◆ **Junk King**  
2938 Janitell Rd.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906  
888-888-5865
- ◆ **Bestway Disposal**  
650 Santa Fe St.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903



Report Spills & Dumping  
*For Clean Waterways*

Report spills or dumping to the Spill  
Hotline  
719-491-6096

## Managing Yard Waste & Landscape Debris



Think Outside the Lawn  
*For Clean Waterways*

719-385-5980  
<https://coloradosprings.gov/stormwater>